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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Jørn Borch SØE  
 U.S. Serial No. : To be Assigned  
 Filing Date : Herewith  
 Int'l Appln. No. : PCT/IB99/01354  
 Int'l Filing Date : 20 July 1999  
 Earliest Priority Date : 21 July 1998  
 For : FOODSTUFF

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**EXPRESS MAIL**

Mailing Label Number: EL742666006US

Date of Deposit: December 28, 2000

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of this U.S. application, please enter the following amendments:

038227 0009460